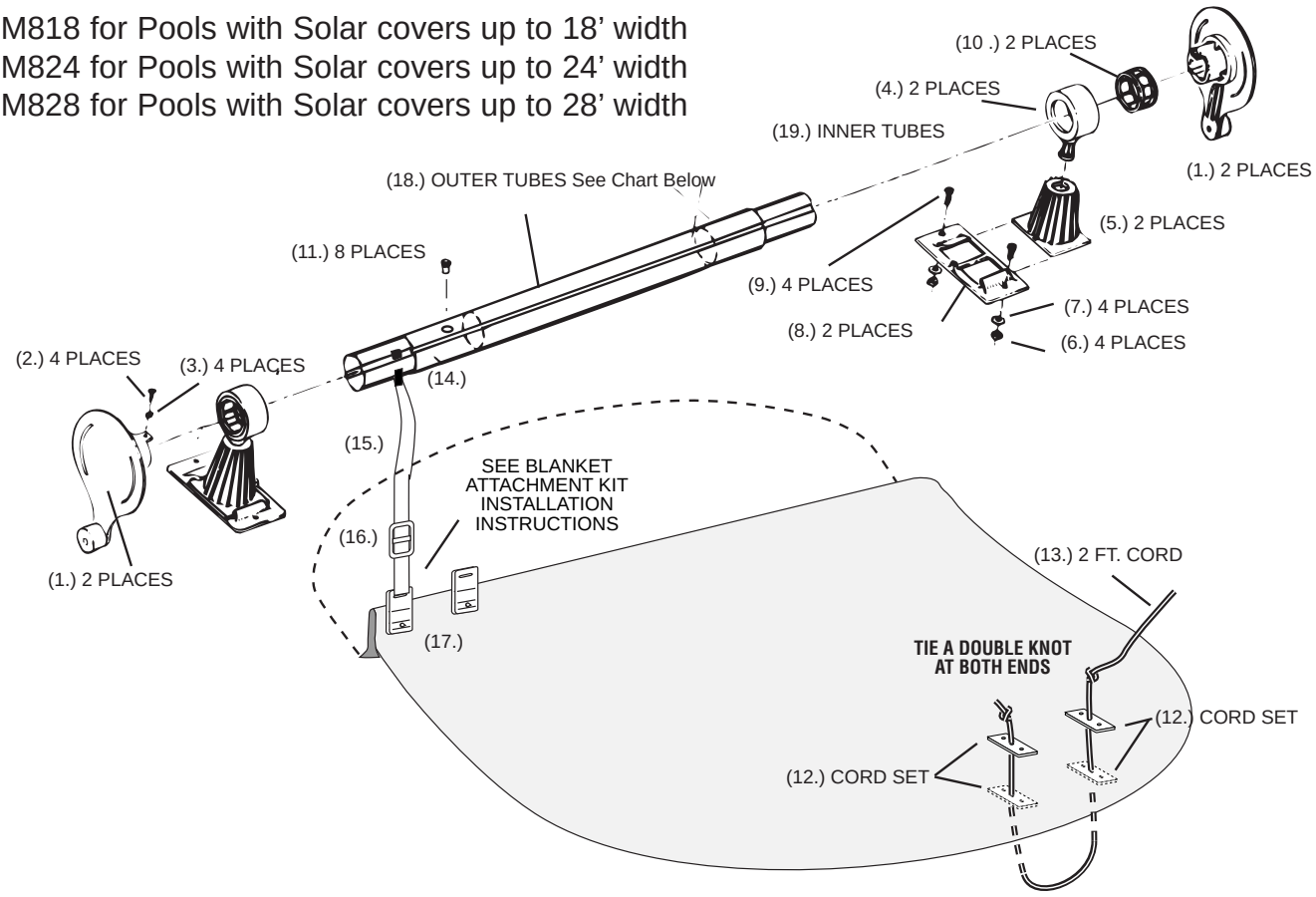
FREEDOM SERIES
M818/824/828 ABOVE GROUND REEL SYSTEMS

Assembly and Operation Instructions

M818 for Pools with Solar covers up to 18’ width
M824 for Pools with Solar covers up to 24’ width
M828 for Pools with Solar covers up to 28’ width



TOOLS REQUIRED

Power Drill
Drill bits for cutting metal –
1/2” & 13/64”, 1/4”, 1/8” sizes
Hex Socket Wrench w/ 7/16” Hex Socket
Phillips Screwdriver
Permanent Marking Pen

PARTS LIST

PARTS DESCRIPTION	PART#	QTY	PARTS DESCRIPTION	PART#	QTY
1. Handwheel w/handle	523	2	10. Bearing Race Assembly	615	2
2. 1-1/4” Phillips Shoulder Bolt	415	4	11. Neoprene Tube Insert	475	8
3. 3/4 Nylon Washer	450	4	12. Cord Plate (Set)	610	2
4. Yoke	532	2	13. 2’ Return Cord	861	1
5. Base	530	2	14. Velcro Hook Piece	880	8
6. Base Plate Nut	405	4	15. 6’ Blue Strap	890	8
7. Base Plate Washer	411	4	16. Strap Buckle	800	8
8. Base Plate	540	2	17. Quick Clip Cover Plate	600	8
9. Base Plate Bolt	412	4			

TUBE PARTS LIST FOR EACH SYSTEM

M818			M824			M828		
PARTS DESCRIPTION	PART#	QTY	PARTS DESCRIPTION	PART#	QTY	PARTS DESCRIPTION	PART#	QTY
18. 7’ Tube (Outer)	207	1	18. 8’ 11” Tube (Outer)	230	1	18. 10’ 6” Tube (Outer)	208	1
19. 7’ Tube (Inner)	206	2	19. 8’ 11” Tube (Inner)	231	2	19. 10’ 6” Tube (Inner)	209	2

WHERE TO INSTALL THE SYSTEM ON YOUR POOL

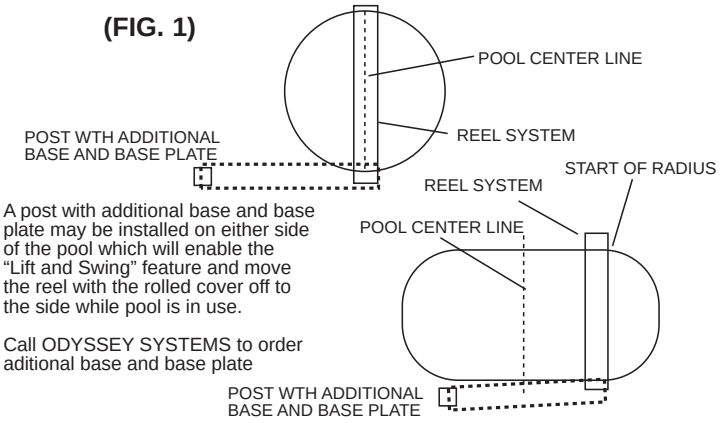
1. If your pool is round, placement of the reel should be in the center of the pool. For an oval pool the reel should be installed near the end of the pool at the start of the radius. **(SEE FIG. 1)** Or you may also consider mounting the system on posts off either side of the pool regardless of the pool shape.

NOTE: *IF THE COVER HAS NOT YET BEEN TRIMMED, ADD 4" TO THE TRIMMED LENGTH OF THE COVER TO COMPENSATE FOR THE ATTACHMENT SYSTEM REQUIREMENT*

2. **BLANKET PREPARATION:** In order for your solar blanket to roll up neatly on the solar reel, allow the blanket to relax on the pool for a day or two and let the heat of the sun iron out the folds and creases of the blanket.

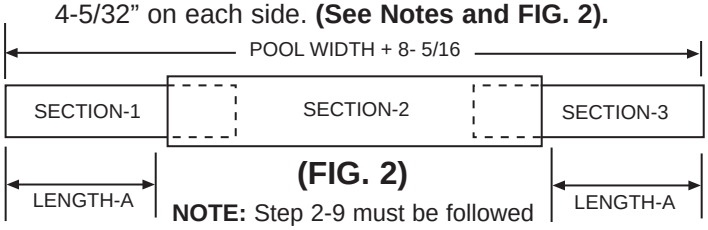
NOTE: Make certain there is a flat surface on the top rail, and no obstruction under the rail to prevent mounting the base plate.

(FIG. 1)


POOL CENTER LINE
REEL SYSTEM
POST WTH ADDITIONAL BASE AND BASE PLATE
START OF RADIUS
REEL SYSTEM
POOL CENTER LINE
A post with additional base and base plate may be installed on either side of the pool which will enable the "Lift and Swing" feature and move the reel with the rolled cover off to the side while pool is in use.
Call ODYSSEY SYSTEMS to order aditional base and base plate
POST WTH ADDITIONAL BASE AND BASE PLATE

ASSEMBLY INSTRUCTIONS

1. Remove all Tube Sections and place on a flat ground as in **(FIG. 2)** SECTION 1 is STORED INSIDE OF SECTION 2. Slide sections 1 and 3 out to the desired total tube length. Usually pool width(measured from **INSIDE** of pool walls) plus 4-5/32" on each side. **(See Notes and FIG. 2).**



(FIG. 2)

NOTE: Step 2-9 must be followed or tube sagging will occur.

2. **To attach the LEFT SIDE of section 1 & 2 tubes.** Using **(FIG. 3)**, with a power drill and a sharp 1/2" bit, Drill a hole 3" from the left end of the **section 2** tube and in the center of the groove cut in the tube. Drill through both **section 1 and section 2.** ***(Refer to Step 2)***

3. Place neoprene tube insert into the hole. Using a hex socket wrench and a 7/16" socket, rotate hex head **two (2) complete turns and stop.** ***(Refer to Step 2)***

4. Rotate tube sections 90° and drill a hole 14" from the left end of the tube **section 2.** ***(Refer to Step 3)*** *Repeat all instructions in #3 above.*

5. Rotate tube sections 90° and drill a hole 3" from the *left end* of the tube **section 2.** ***(Refer to Step 4)*** *Repeat all instructions in #3 above.*

6. Rotate tube sections 90° and drill a hole 14" from the left end of the tube **section 2.** ***(Refer to Step 5)*** *Repeat all instructions in #3 above.*

7. Rotate tube sections 90°. Using a hex socket wrench and a 7/16" socket, to tighten each hex head an additional two (2) complete turns.

8. Continue to rotate tubes and tighten hex heads until all are tight and neoprene insert body mushrooms. **Do not overtighten. (SEE FIG. 4)**

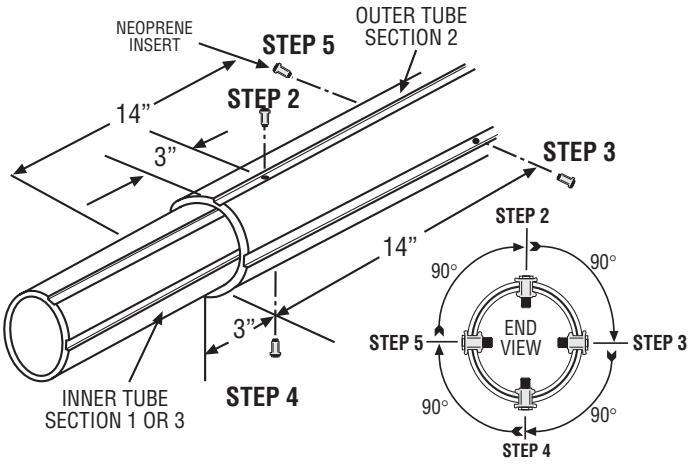
9. **To attach the RIGHT SIDE of section 2 & 3 tubes.** Repeat instructions **#2 thru #8** above, but taking all hole measurements from the RIGHT END of tube **section 2**.

NOTE:
Both Lengths "A" are ALWAYS equal, and never should exceed 5'10" on the M818, 7'11" on the M824 and 9'11" on the M828

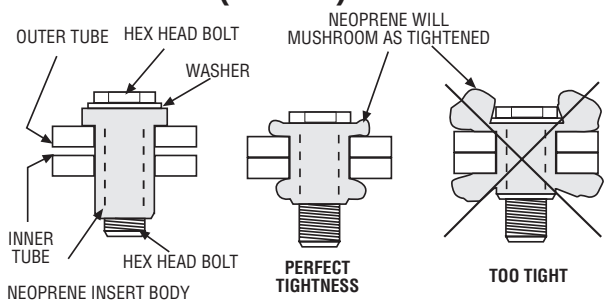
If your pool has a width of 12 ft. the M818 is recommended but one inner tube must be cut shorter by 2 feet or cut both inner tubes by 1 feet..

Before drilling any holes, lay the tubes out to desired length to make sure that total length fits pool properly.

(FIG. 3)



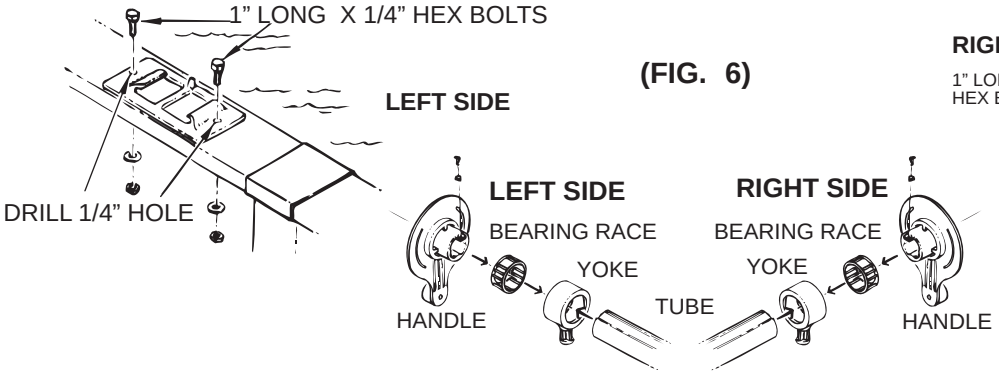
(FIG. #4)



ASSEMBLY INSTRUCTIONS (CONT.)

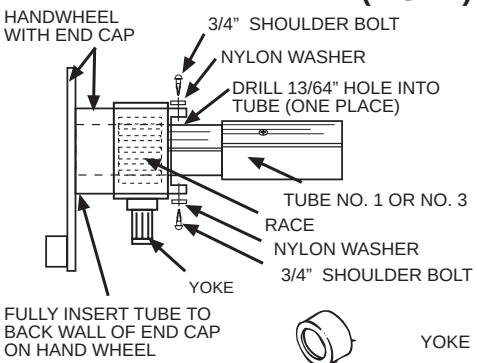
10. Install one base plate on top flat edge **(LEFT SIDE)** completely as shown in **(FIG. 5)** of pool rail. Slide BOTH bearing race assemblies onto each hand wheel and then slide into each Yoke **(SEE FIG. 6)** to stop. Yoke stop must face pool. Align keys in handwheel with corresponding key-ways in the tubing. Slide tubing into handwheel collar until it is making contact with back wall of handwheel. If the tubing is not fully inserted into the back wall, your reel might fail when peak loads are applied. Using the pre-drilled holes in the endcap as a guide, drill a 13/64" hole through the tube and screw in both shoulder bolts **(SEE FIG. 7)**. Set LEFT SIDE Yoke asembly into **MOUNTED** base plate on left side of pool. With the RIGHT SIDE fully assembled, slide this yoke into its base and then into its **UNMOUNTED** base plate on the right side of the pool, making sure that it is PARALLEL to the mounted left side base plate **(SEE FIG. 8).** When in position, mark base plate holes on rail top. Drill and mount base plate **(SEE FIG. 9)**. Set yoke into base plate to complete installation.

(FIG. 5)

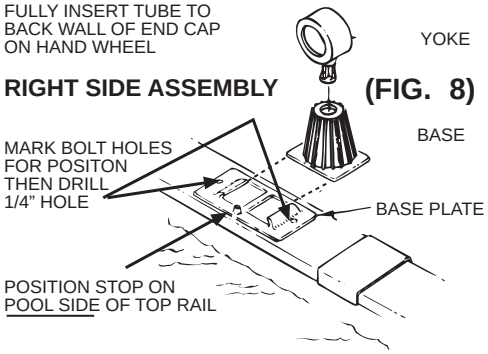


(FIG. 6)

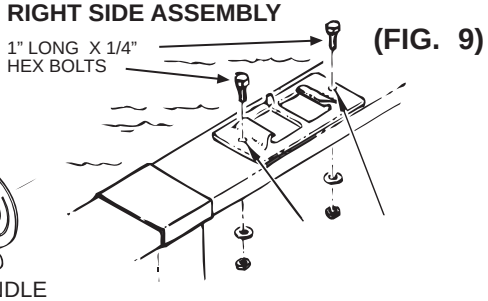
(FIG. 7)


HANDWHEEL WITH END CAP
3/4" SHOULDER BOLT
NYLON WASHER
DRILL 13/64" HOLE INTO TUBE (ONE PLACE)
TUBE NO. 1 OR NO. 3
RACE
NYLON WASHER
3/4" SHOULDER BOLT
YOKE
FULLY INSERT TUBE TO BACK WALL OF END CAP ON HAND WHEEL

RIGHT SIDE ASSEMBLY **(FIG. 8)**



RIGHT SIDE ASSEMBLY **(FIG. 9)**



ATTACHING THE COVER FOR ABOVE GROUND POOLS

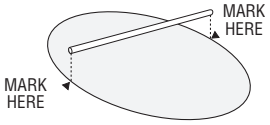
11. The cover should be on the pool and trimmed to fit properly. The edge of the cover should be within the inside edge of the top rail of the pool.

12. Using a marking pen, place a mark at each edge of the cover directly under the tube. **(SEE FIG. 1)**

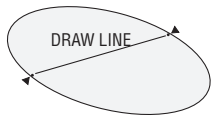
13. Remove the cover from the pool and lay out on flat ground. With a marking pen and a straight edge, draw a straight line between the two marks on the edge made previously. **(SEE FIG. 2)**

14. Starting at least 3" from the folded edge of the cover attach a plastic clip to the cover on the drawn line by pulling a double thickness of the cover into the plastic clip as shown in the diagram, and snapping closed. The sharp post on the plastic clip can pierce the cover *(or it can be pre-pierced with a knife or other sharp object for ease of assembly)*. **(SEE FIG. 3)** Equally space the remaining seven clips across the cover on the straight line as before with the eighth clip positioned about 3" from the opposite edge. **(SEE FIG. 4)**

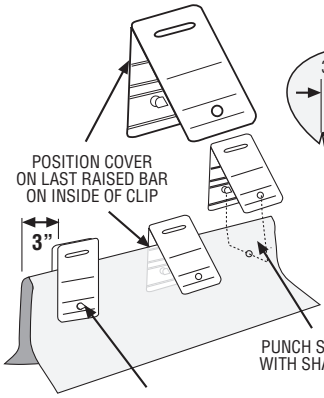
(FIG. 1)



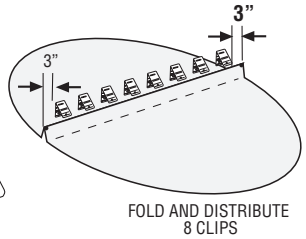
(FIG. 2)



(FIG. 3)

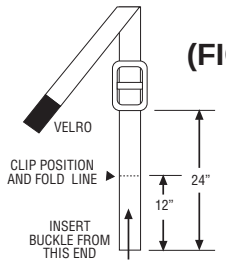

POSITION COVER ON LAST RAISED BAR ON INSIDE OF CLIP
3"
PUNCH SMALL HOLE WITH SHARP OBJECT
PUSH SHARP POST AND SNAP INTO RECEIVER HOLE

(FIG. 4)

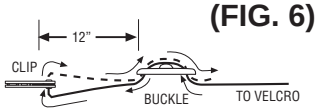


15. Assembly of strap and buckle: With the ridged crossbar of the buckle facing up, slide the buckle onto the strap from the end opposite the Velcro end. Move the buckle at least 24" up from the end of the strap. **(FIG. 5)** Feed the end of the strap through the slot on the plastic clip then thread the strap end back through the buckle as indicated by the dotted lines in the diagram. Repeat the process at each clip position. **(SEE FIG. 6)**
16. Position the cover on the pool. It is necessary to enter the pool to complete the installation. The Velcro end is used to secure the strap onto the tube. Position the Velcro end of the strap as straight as possible over the tube of the reel system. Place a Velcro tab on the tube by peeling off the protective backing. The tube must be dry and clean where the Velcro tab is being placed. **(SEE FIG. 7)** Attach the Velcro end of the strap to the Velcro tab. Repeat this process in a straight line along the tube for each of the seven remaining straps.
17. Using the buckles, adjust each strap so that each has equal tension on the cover. This is necessary for proper roll-up alignment **(SEE FIG. 6)**. **The extra length should wrap around the tube to facilitate pulling the blanket off the pool and on to the tube. The Velcro tabs alone are not strong enough to pull the blanket up off the pool.**
18. For ease of re-covering your pool after use, install the return cord provided at the opposite end of the pool cover using the white cord and two sets of male/female cord plates. Locate the plates about 3" apart and at least 6" from the edge of the cover. **(SEE FIG. 9)** To install plates, use the plate with three holes as a guide to punch three holes through the cover. Snap the posts on the male plate through the two holes on the female plate with the cover sandwiched between the two plates. **(SEE FIG. 8)** Thread the return cord through the top center hole of plate #1 and plate #2 as shown in the diagram and then tie a double knot at both ends. **(SEE FIG. 9)**

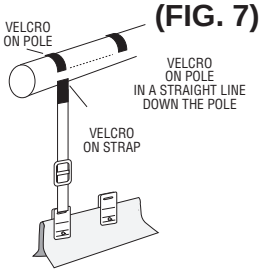
(FIG. 5)



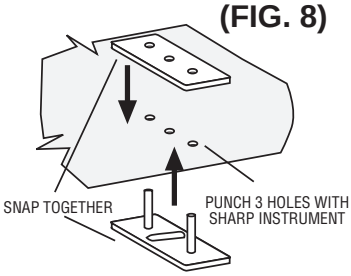
(FIG. 6)



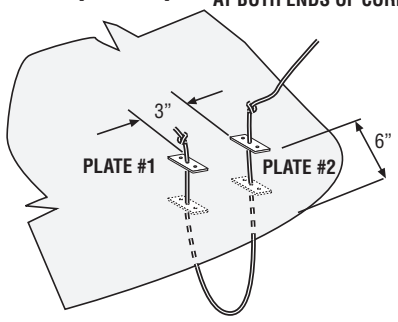
(FIG. 7)



(FIG. 8)



(FIG. 9) **TIE DOUBLE KNOT AT BOTH ENDS OF CORD**



OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

19. Slowly turn handwheel clockwise; the cover will be lifted up and come over the tube. Should either cover edge be hampered by the top rail, straighten it out so that cover remains smooth and wrinkle- free during roll-up. MAKE CERTAIN COVER IS REMOVED FROM POOL UNIFORMLY ON TO TUBE. When cover is completely rolled up on tube,lift the handwheel, tube, and yoke and rotate system to any desired location. in order to utilize "Lift and Swing" feature, a post will be needed to rest the system on. For ease of operation, call Odyssey and order Lift and Swing Kit **(Part # 103)**. This kit will give you and additional base and base plate to mount to post

PLACING THE COVER ON THE POOL

20. Turn handwheel counterclockwise until cover makes contact with the pool. Grip cover edge and walk slowly down the pool to the end. Opposite side of the cover should also move down the pool toward the other end. If not, roll out 5-8 feet of cover at a time and repeat procedure.

USE NO LUBRICANTS ON PLASTIC PARTS!

SOME HELPFUL HINTS

1. Remove handwheels at the beginning of each season, or every 12 months. Clean yoke bushing, bearing race, and handwheel with warm soapy water. Rinse dry and reassemble.
2. Always store the reel with an eye for safety.

MANUFACTURER IS NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR ACCIDENTS OR DAMAGE RESULTING FROM UNSAFE STORAGE.

LIMITED WARRANTY

ODYSSEY warrants the reel system to be free of workmanship/material defects for a period of three (3) years from the date of purchase. Any claims must be supported by invoice/proof of purchase.

EXCLUDED FROM THIS WARRANTY ARE ALL CONSUMABLES: straps, cord, velcro, plastic plates and clips.

ODYSSEY WILL not be liable for any incidental or consequential damages resulting from any defects in workmanship or material, nor for personal injury resulting from improper placement of reel system when not in use.

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